

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 /085 W

----- 089511

R 190656Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2898

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANAA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0730

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO FR, FT

SUBJECT: SOMALI-FRENCH RELATIONS

1. CLAUDE MAYNOT, FRENCH CHARGE, HAS INFORMED ME THAT SOMALI GOVERNMENT HAS EVIDENTLY DECIDED TO ACCEPT GOF EXPULSION OF TWO GSDR DIPLOMATIS IN DJIBOUTI WITHOUT FURTHER REACTION OR RECRIMINATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO CHARGE, SOMALI SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (SRC) MET FIRST WEEK IN MAY TO CONSIDER SOMALI REACTION TO GOF EXPULSION ORDER. CHARGE HAS LEARNED THAT SRC MEMBERS WERE DIVIDED ON QUESTION OF GSDR RESPONSE, WITH SOME SRC MEMBERS REPORTEDLY URGING THAT SOMALIA BREAK RELATIONS WITH FRANCE. PRESIDENT SIAD ULTIMATELY INTERVENED HOWEVER AND RULED THAT RELATIONS WERE TO CONTINUE AND THAT GSDR AND SOMALI MEDIA WERE TO DOWNPLAY ENTIRE AFFAIR.

3. CHARGE HAS NOT SINCE MET WITH MOFA OFFICIALS BUT HAS RECEIVED PROPOSED NAME OF NEW SOMALI CONGEN IN DJIBOUTI, WHICH HE HAS FORWARDED TO PARIS FOR ITS APPROVAL. MEDIA CAMPAIGN HAS ALSO COOLED

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OFF.

4. REGARDING VISIT OF FRENCH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES MINISTER
STIRN TO DJIBOUTI IN EARLY MAY, CHARGE CLAIMED THAT VISIT HAS BEEN

FREE OF INCIDENTS. HE SAID THAT STIRN MET IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL
WITH TFAI OPPOSITION LEADERS, WHO TOLD HIM THAT TERRITORY IS
IN NO RPT NO HURRY FOR INDEPENDENCE, THAT WHEN INDEPENDENCE CAME
FRENCH NAVAL AND MILITARY PRESENCE WOULD BE INVITED TO REMAIN TO
GUARANTEE TFAI INDEPENDENCE, AND THAT SUBSTANTIAL FRENCH
ECONOMIC CREDITS WOULD BE NEEDED.

5. MAYNOT IS NOW SOMEWHAT MORE CONFIDENT OF HIS TENURE HERE
(HE ARRIVED DAY AMBASSADOR GUEURY WAS KIDNAPPED). HE IS SEASONED
DIPLOMAT AND AN ARABIST WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN AFRICA AS WELL.
HE DOUBTS THAT PARIS WILL SOON REPLACE AMBASSADOR GUEURY.
HAMRICK

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